(After lunch—2-30 p.m.)

(2) PRESENTATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1951–52.

* THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—"Mr. Chairman, Sir, I present the second supplementary statement of Demands for Grants for further expenditure in the year 1951–52 and Detailed Estimates thereof. Copies of the Statement of Demands and the Estimates have been laid on the Table of the House.

"As the House is aware, the first supplementary statement for this official year was approved by the Legislature in October 1951 and it related to new service schemes which were sanctioned or proposed to be sanctioned by the Government early in the year and for which only token sums were obtained from the Legislature in the Revenue and the Capital Accounts. As explained in the Introductory Memorandum, the present supplementary demands relate to—

(*a*) Schemes of expenditure already provided for in the budget for 1951–52 and schemes approved by the Legislature in connexion with the first supplementary statement of demands for grants voted in October 1951, for which additional provision is now required with reference to the expenditure already incurred or expected to be incurred before the end of the year; and

(*b*) 'New Service' schemes sanctioned by the Government in the latter part of this year, which were not included in the first supplementary statement of demands for grants for this year.

"In the latter class of cases, the demand proposed is for the actual additional appropriation required to meet the expenditure in the current year on individual schemes, after taking into account the savings now anticipated in the concerned Grants. Where sufficient savings are expected, the demand proposed is only for a token sum of Rs. 100.

"The estimated expenditure in 1951–52 in respect of 'new service' schemes included in the present statement is relatively small—Rs. 49·43 lakhs in the Revenue Account and Rs. 0·54 lakhs in the Capital Account. This expenditure is covered by advances sanctioned from the Madras Contingency Fund, pending regularization by the Legislature. But most of the Demands proposed are in respect of larger expenditure on items provided for in the Budget for 1951–52 and approved by the Legislature, due to various causes, as explained in the Detailed Estimates.

"There are in all 32 Demands pertaining to the Revenue Account, including one wholly 'charged' item, involving a total sum of Rs. 660·12 lakhs under 'voted' and Rs. 46·60 lakhs under 'charged'. Under Capital Account there are six Demands involving a total sum of Rs. 98·58 lakhs under 'voted' expenditure alone. A sum of Rs. 172·96 lakhs is also proposed under Loans and Advances by the State Government. The total of all the supplementary demands including 'charged' items works out to nearly Rs. 10

crores. This may at first sight appear large but it is less than one-half of the total amount of the supplementary estimate presented last March (about Rs. 22 crores). As explained in the Introductory Memorandum, the total of the present Demands does not represent a corresponding increase in the total budget appropriation for the year. Against the additional demands now included, savings or credits are anticipated to the extent of nearly Rs. 1 crore in the Revenue Account and Rs. 7 crores in the Capital Account. The amount of the Supplementary Demands has not been reduced with reference to these savings, as no re-appropriation is permissible from one Grant to another or between ' charged ' and ' voted ' items.

" Further, most of the increased expenditure has been allowed for in the Revised Estimate for 1951–52 already presented to the Legislature.

" The important supplementary Demands pertaining to the Revenue Account are the following :—

Grant X—State Legislature (*Rs.* 37·73 *lakhs*).—The expenditure on General Elections has been much larger than originally anticipated.

Grant XIV—Police (*Rs.* 81.53 *lakhs*).—The additional demand is mainly for the increased expenditure on travelling allowances and on feeding and transport charges of the Armed Reserve in connection with the general elections.

Grant XVI—Medical (*Rs.* 29·06 *lakhs*).—The additional appropriation is required for meeting the increase in the cost of diet, medicines and other hospital necessaries in the various hospitals in the City and the mufassal, including those newly taken over from local bodies.

Grant XVII—Public Health (*Rs.* 45·22 *lakhs*).—Larger expenditure has been incurred mainly on digging wells in rural areas, having regard to the prevailing drought conditions.

Grant XVIII—Agriculture (*Rs.* 114·99 *lakhs*).—The additional appropriation is asked for mainly on account of the purchase of agricultural machinery, such as tractors, bull-dozers, oil-engines and pumpsets and in connexion with the scheme of purchase and distribution of seeds.

Grant XXVII—Civil Works—Grants-in-aid (*Rs.* 42·24 *lakhs*).—The increased expenditure is mainly on account of the sanction of large grants for famine relief works undertaken by certain district boards at the instance of the Government, to provide employment to distressed agricultural labourers, affected by the adverse seasonal conditions. This is in addition to the expenditure directly incurred by the Government on running gruel centres, etc., for which there is a separate Demand.

Grant XXVIII—Electricity (*Rs.* 84·27 *lakhs*).—The additional appropriation is required for the operation and maintenance expenses of electrical undertakings acquired by the Government.

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Grant XXX—Pensions (*Rs.* 28·99 *lakhs*).—The increase in expenditure is mainly on account of larger commutation of pensions and payment of contribution to be made by the Government in arrears in respect of past service of their employees, who have joined the new scheme of Pension-cum-Provident Fund Insurance.

" Turning to the Capital Account, the main item is Rs. 94.90 lakhs which represents the deposits to be made before 31st March 1952, towards the advance compensation due in respect of Inam estates taken over by the Government in October and November 1951.

" Under disbursement of loans and advances, the Demand of nearly Rs. 2 crores has been necessitated on account of the grant of large takkavi loans to agriculturists, as a consequence of adversed seasonal conditions.

" I am aware that the presentation of large supplementary Demands for Grants towards the end of the year may invite adverse criticism, as in past years. Apart from the difficulty of accurate budgetting in respect of various items more than a year in advance, in these abnormal times, it should be remembered that the additional demands are necessitated by the progressive policy followed by the Government in respect of nation building departments, e.g., Education, Medical and Public Health, Agriculture, Communications, Irrigation and Electricity. The maintenance of Law and Order is also one major contributing factor for the increased expenditure.

" I would stress again that the total of the present supplementary estimate is much less than that of last year.

" With these words, I commend the Supplementary Estimates for the acceptance of the House."

(1) GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1952–53—*cont.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now continue the General Discussion on the Budget.

* DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, as I was reading the reports on the discussion of the Budget in the other House and as I sat listening to the speeches of hon. Members on both sides of this House, I felt there was an air of unreality in the whole proceedings of this House on this occasion. I must confess that I am not sure whom I am addressing and for what purpose. This is a most unfortunate fact that on this occasion the Budget for the year is being presented by an attenuated Cabinet of five Members two of whom are not responsible for the present discussion of the Budget. So that it comes to this that only three Members who are themselves not sure whether they will be held responsible or hold themselves responsible for the presentation of this Budget this year are presenting the budget to this House and the other House. I am referring to this because it seems to me that this should not be taken as a